THE STATE FOUNDATION

November 17, 1983

ON
CULTURE
AND
THE ARTS



GEORGE R. ARIYOSHI Governor

HIDEO MURAKAMI Comptroller

NAOMI MORITA Chairman

SARAH M. RICHARDS Executive Director Mary Kawena Pukui c/o Pat Bacon 1525 Bernice Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and the Governor of Hawaii would like to join in this celebration honoring the life and spirit of Mary Kawena Pukui. We are both proud and honored to be a part of a community that has spawned the cultural richness which Mary Kawena's publications document.

At occasions such as this, it is sometimes easy to become overly enamored with the event itself and view the award as an end, independent of a beginning or middle. Tonight we will celebrate the final product of a person's lifelong efforts in a flurry of words, entertainment and excitement. Yet we are all here to honor the day-to-day life of Mary Kawena--her careful and consistent efforts, the untiring devotion and persistence and her personal commitment to preserving the wealth of Hawaiian culture for future generations. We are truly dazzled by her energetic strength of purpose and her indelible warmth and spirit of sharing.

Mary Kawena's strength and generosity are amply displayed in her many publications and especially in this most recent, 'Olelo No'eau. One of her special gifts is the ability to translate oral tradition into carefully chosen words in English that still allow the wisdom inherent in the Hawaiian language and lifestyle to shine forth with their original radiant warmth.

Mary Kawena Pukui has set an inspiring example for us all, and we recognize that without her undaunted perseverance and love, we might never be able to share in the wisdom and integrity of the past and preserve it for our children and our children's children.

Sarah M. Richards Executive Director

Sarel W. Richards

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